Global Citizenship Program

CAPSTONE PROJECT

As the final requirement of the program, the GCP Capstone Project should fundamentally demonstrate that the candidate has become a globally competent citizen with the ability to recognize diverse perspectives, communicate with diverse groups, and translate ideas into positive action. This includes an awareness that their own cultural perspective does not represent a universal norm but rather one in a global array of perspectives.

The Capstone should be a creative and original project or written work that meets the requirements in the rubric below.

The Capstone Project Proposal

All students must first submit a written Capstone Proposal for approval before submitting the project itself. The proposal should be a 300-500 word brief overview of the intended project and how it will meet the requirements listed in the rubric. Students can submit a proposal at any time before the annual deadline and are in fact encouraged to begin thinking about their proposal earlier in the program.

Should a student decide to revise their project to a new one after submitting the proposal to the WAC, they must submit a new proposal for the revised version. No projects without proposals will be considered complete.

Consider the following questions as you complete your proposal:

- What is the project you intend to create?
- What is its intended purpose?
- Will it need to be accompanied by an explanation? (Is it an audio or visual work?)
- How does it fulfill the criteria listed in the rubric?
Capstone Rubric

This rubric measures the success of a given project based on the already identified features of global and cultural competence. The candidate has broad license to design a project that fits their personal interests and skills so long as it achieves the following capstone targets and is preceded by an approved proposal:

1. **Recognizes diverse perspectives and appreciates insights gained through open cultural exchange:**

   The project investigates diverse perspectives by specifically highlighting at least one cultural difference between or among members of at least two distinct cultural groups. This could be the intended “purpose” of the project or simply an embedded feature of a project with a separate specific purpose.

2. **Communicates with diverse groups and understands the opportunities and challenges of language diversity:**

   The project demonstrates ability to effectively exchange ideas with diverse audiences who **may or may not** have any shared spoken language. This could include features that are bi- or multi-lingual; it could alternately seek to convey ideas without use of written or spoken language (art, music, video, etc.).

3. **Translates ideas into positive action by applying what you’ve learned through community engagement:**

   The project represents a real-world application of cultural understanding to a specific community challenge. It may exist as a “proposal” or, where feasible, an actual application of their concept.

*PLEASE NOTE:* All projects that are not text-based (ie. not a paper, scripted video, pamphlet, etc.) **must** be accompanied by a brief (1 page typed) description and explanation of the project and its purpose. For example, a painting must be accompanied by an artist’s statement.

*Examples of Capstone Projects:*

- Written or digital guide for a historic walking tour of the candidate’s community for business people participating in an international partnership with a company based in the local community.

- Video or skit that examines the social concept of “personal space” in two or more cultural groups with different perspectives on the topic accompanied by a brief explanation of the video’s purpose.
· Mural or mural idea for a public space to encourage understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity among residents of a neighborhood, accompanied by an artist’s statement.

· Research paper that addresses cross-cultural mental and public health concerns.

· Short documentary film that examines cultural food practices around their town.